

Curriculum Vitae

Elisabeth O'Brien

Education:

Bachelor of Science, Biology; May 1988
Bates College, Lewiston, Maine

Experience:

Lab Supervisor I William A. Hinton State Laboratory Institute, Drug Analysis Laboratory
March 2009-present

*Responsible for oversight of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Boston Drug Laboratory Evidence Office. Duties of the Evidence Office include receiving drug evidence from law enforcement agencies, maintaining chain of custody records, assigning samples to chemists, producing certificates of analysis for review by chemists.

Chemist III State Laboratory Institute, Drug Analysis Laboratory

March 1990-October 2000, January 2002-March 2009

*Completed six week training course conducted by senior staff within the Department of Public Health Drug Analysis Laboratory.

*Appointed Assistant Analyst by the Assistant Commissioner of Public Health, March 1990.

*Responsible for the identification of drugs to determine violations of harmful and narcotic drug laws.

*Trained in the use of complex analytical instrumentation, microscopes and balances for the purposes of drug analysis.

*Compile and edit a periodic drug lab newsletter for distribution to law enforcement agencies

*Developed a heroin study to track heroin purity throughout Massachusetts, 1999-2000

*Attended the Drug Enforcement Administration's Forensic Chemist Seminar in McLean, VA June 1992.

*Qualified as an expert witness in Massachusetts courts and U. S. District Court

*Notary Public

*Member Northeast Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS)

Assistant Deputy Superintendent, Plymouth County Sheriff's Department, MA

March 2001-September 2001. *Responsible for operations of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation crime laboratory

*Began comprehensive training in fingerprint analysis under the direction of a certified latent print examiner.

*Completed training in Evidence Handling and Crime Scene/DNA considerations sponsored by the Massachusetts State Police at Cape Cod Community College, June 2001

*Attended symposium for Automated Fingerprint Identification System May 2001

Research Technician, Theobald Smith Research Institute, Boston, MA, 1989-1990

*Worked in the newborn screening division of the Department of Public Health to determine the seroprevalence of HIV in newborns.

*Provided technical assistance for the journal article "Early diagnosis of HIV infection in infants by detection of IgA HIV antibodies" published in The Lancet 1990.

*Provided technical assistance under the direction of Dr. Rodney Hoff for the abstract "Seroprevalence of HTLV-1/2 and HIV 1 in intravenous drug users in Boston"